

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4170

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 1408

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ABLD, UNGA, RQ, SO

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR'S MEETING WITH VP KULMIYE

SUMMARY: PRIOR TO CALL ON VICE PRESIDENT HUSSEIN KULMIYE AFRAH AMBASSADOR WAS TOLD BY PRESIDENTIAL FOREIGN AFFAIRS ASSISTANT OMAR ELMI WARSAMA THAT SOMALIA WOULD NOT OPPOSE U.S. ON PUERTO RICO ISSUE AT 31ST UNGA. WARSAMA ALSO SAID PRESIDENT SIAD WOULD RECEIVE ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFLE IF THE LATTER WERE TO VISIT MOGADISCIO LATE THIS YEAR. KULMIYE ORDERED FORMATION OF GROUP OF WORKING-LEVEL GSDR OFFICIALS TO CONSULT WITH AND ASSIST EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVES ON AN EXCHANGE OF PROPERTIES. END SUMMARY.

1. VICE PRESIDENT KULMIYE CALLED ME IN FOR TOUR D'HORIZON ON AUGUST 29.

2. IN BRIEF CHAT WITH PRESIDENTIAL FOREIGN AFFAIRS ASSISTANT OMAR ELMI WARSAMA WHILE I WAS WAITING TO SEE KULMIYE, WARSAMA TOLD ME THAT, AT DIRECTION OF PRESIDENT, HE HAD ISSUED INSTRUCTIONS THROUGH FOREIGN MINISTRY TO SOMALI PERMREP AT U.N. ABDIRIZAK HAJI PUSSEIN THAT SOMALIA WAS NOT RPT NOT TO OPPOSE U.S. ON PUERTO RICAN QUESTION. DELEGATION WAS TO "ABSTAIN, IF NECESSARY" SHOULD ISSUE COME TO VOTE.

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3. WARSAMA, WHO SAID HE HAD READ SOMALI AMBASSADOR ADDOU'S

REPORT OF HIS MEETING WITH UNDERSECRETARY ROBINSON AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFEELE, REFERRED TO POSSIBILITY OF A SCHAUFEELE VISIT TO SOMALIA. WARSAMA SAID THAT SIAD WAS AWARE OF POSSIBILITY AND WOULD RECEIVE THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY IF HE CAME. VISIT SHOULD BE TIMED WELL AFTER OCTOBER 21 ANNIVERSARY OF THE REVOLUTION. TRYING NOT TO DAMPEN WARSAMA'S GOOD SPIRITS, I STATED THAT VISIT STILL IN TALKING STAGE AND THAT NO DECISION ON WHETHER, MUCH LESS WHEN, SCHAUFEELE MIGHT COME HAD BEEN MADE.

4. INTRODUCING SUBJECT OF NEW EMBASSY COMPOUND, KULMIYE ASKED IF I HAD BEEN IN CONTACT WITH MINISTER OF FINANCE. I EXPLAINED THAT FINANCE MINISTER HAD TOLD US TO DEAL WITH MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND THEN GAVE KULMIYE AN ACCOUNT OF MY TALK WITH MFA DIRECTOR GENERAL ABDURAHMAN JAMA BARRE. I TOLD KULMIYE THAT MFA HAD NOT YET RESPONDED TO OUR REQUEST FOR DIPLOMATIC NOTE FORMALLY CONVEYING PROPOSAL CONTAINED ABDURAHMAN'S LETTER NOR TO OUR REQUEST THAT EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVES BE ALLOWED ACCESS TO OLD MFA BUILDING TO MEASURE, INSPECT AND PHOTOGRAPH PREMISES. KULMIYE SEEMED PERTURBED THAT ABDURAHMAN APPARENTLY ATTEMPTING TO HOG THE ACTION ON THE PROPERTY EXCHANGE AND ORDERED WARSAMA TO DESIGNATE OFFICIALS ON TECHNICAL LEVEL IN MINISTRIES OF FINANCE, PUBLIC WORKS AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO MEET WITH EMBASSY OFFICERS AND TO FACILITATE EMBASSY'S EFFORTS TO PREPARE EVALUATION GSDR PROPOSAL FOR CONSIDERATION IN WASHINGTON.

5. KULMIYE HAD NOTHING ELSE NEW TO SAY, LEADING ME TO BELIEVE HIS CALL FOR MEETING DESIGNED SIMPLY TO DEMONSTRATE HIS ACCESSIBILITY TO WESTERN DIPLOMATS.
LOUGHRAN

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